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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 ACDA-12 IO-14 L-03 NSC-05 NRC-07
OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00 SS-15 CEQ-01 PM-05 H-02
/126 W
----------045040 171415Z /47
R 171052Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6040
DOE WASHDC
DOE GERMANTOWN
ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 07393

USEEC

VIENNA FOR USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, PARM, MNUC, EEC
SUBJECT: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT SOCIALIST GROUP ON U.S.
- NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION ACT

1. THE SOCIALIST GROUP OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ISSUED THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE JUST PRIOR TO EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN COPENHAGEN APRIL 7/8. BEGIN QUOTE:

THE SOCIALIST GROUP EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN THAT THE RECENT SIGNATURE OF THE UNITED STATES NON-PROLIFERATION ACT MAY JEOPARDIZE THE CONTINUATION OF VITAL URANIUM SUPPLIES TO THE COMMUNITY.

A CONSIDERABLE PART OF THE COMMUNITY'S NUCLEAR POWER SECTOR
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IS DEPENDENT UPON SUPPLIES OF NULEAR FUEL FROM THE UNITED STATES. ANY SUSPENSION OF THESE SUPPLIES WOULD BE CERTAIN TO AFFECT ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION IN THE COMMUNITY.

THE EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY (EURATOM) SIGNED LONG-TERM CONTRACTS WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR THE SUPPLY OF URANIUM AT A TIME WHEN MANY COMMUNITY COUNTRIES DECIDED TO

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BUILD LIGHT-WATER REACTORS OF UNITED STATES DESIGN. THE SOCIALIST GROUP CONSIDERS THAT A UNILATERAL SUSPENSION OF URANIUM SUPPLIES BY THE UNITED STATES WOULD CONSTITUTE A BREACH OF GOOD FAITH. MOREOVER THE SOCIALIST GROUP FEELS THAT THERE MAY BE A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TERMS OF THE UNITED STATES NON-PROLIFERATION ACT AND ARTICLE IV OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.

THE SOCIALIST GROUP BELIEVES THAT EURATOM AND THE UNITED STATES SHOULD HOLD DISCUSSIONS ON THIS QUESTION SO THAT A SOLUTION, SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES, CAN BE NEGOTIATED.
END QUOTE.
2. IN INTERESTING CONTRAST TO THIS, HOWEVER, IS AN ITEM APPEARING IN "EUROPE" ON APRIL 14 WHICH STATES THAT "THE COMMISSION LEGAL EXPERTS CONSIDER FURTHERMORE THAT THE EURATOM-UNITED STATES AGREEMENT DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY CLAUSE OBLIGING THE WASHINGTON GOVERNMENT TO AUTHORIZE URANIUM EXPORTS WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE UNDER CONDITIONS NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE AMERICAN LEGISLATION." THE "EUROPE" ARTICLE ALSO REPORTS THE ELEVENTH-HOUR ISSUANCE BY NRC OF A NUMBER OF EXPORT LICENSES FOR EUROPE, NOTING THAT THIS ACTION "SEEMS TO SHOW THAT WASHINGTON DOES NOT WISH TO AGGRAVATE THE SUPPLY SITUATION OF THE COMMUNITY COUNTRIES."
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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Litigation History:
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